

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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R 261200Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2371

INFO AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

COMNAVFORCARIB

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ARA/CAR FOR PALAZZOLO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, NA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CABINET CHANGES

1. SUMMARY: PRIME MINISTER EVERTSZ'S NATIONAL PARTY (NVP-U) AND WILSON GODETT'S FRENTE OBRERO DI LIBERACION (FOL) HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITIES OF FRENTE'S ENTRANCE TO THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IT NOW SEEMS APPARENT THAT FRENTE WILL ENTER THE GNA COALITION AND GODETT WILL BECOME MINISTER OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. THE QUESTION OF NVP-U AND FRENTE COOPERATING IN THE ISLAND GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE BUT NVP-U IS ALLOWING FRENTE ALMOST UNLIMITED TIME TO CONSIDER THE RAMIFICATIONS AS THEY AFFECT FRENTE'S PARTNER IN THE ISLAND GOVERNMENT, THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PSD).

2. RUMORS HAVE BEEN PERSISTENT THAT FRENTE WILL BE INVITED TO JOIN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT COALITION ALONG WITH NVP-U AND ARUBA'S MOVIMENTO ELECTORAL DI PUEBLO (MEP). NVP-U SOURCES NOW CONFIRM THAT EVERTSZ AND GODETT HAVE REACHED BASIC AGREEMENT ON FRENTE'S JOINING THE COALITION WITH GODETT RECEIVING

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MENT ON FRENTE'S JOINING THE COALITION WITH GODETT RECEIVING

THE LABOR PORTFOLIO THAT HE HAS CONSISTENTLY DEMANDED. FRENTE'S THREE STATEN SEATS WILL AGAIN GIVE THE COALITION A 2/3 MAJORITY AS IT HAD BEFORE THE PSD LEFT THE COALITION THIS SPRING. FRENTE FORMED THE CURACAO ISLAND GOVERNMENT IN COALITION WITH PSD FOLLOWING APRIL ISLAND ELECTIONS AND MUST NOW DECIDE WHETHER TO INCLUDE NVP-U IN THAT COALITION. IF NVP-U DOES ENTER THE ISLAND GOVERNMENT, PSD BECOMES SUPERFLUOUS AND THUS CAN BE EXPECTED TO OPPOSE THE BREACHING OF THEIR AGREEMENT WITH FRENTE.

3. THE PRESENT MINISTER OF LABOR, RUFUS MCWILLIAM HAS BEEN OFFERED THE POST OF MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE HAGUE. MCWILLIAM HAD WANTED AN ASSIGNMENT IN HOLLAND IN ORDER TO PURSUE HIS DOCTORAL STUDIES. HIS MENTOR WAS EXPECTING A PROFESSORIAL APPOINTMENT IN HOLLAND WHICH HAS NOT MATERIALIZED AND MCWILLIAMS HAS NOW TOLD THE NVP-U LEADERSHIP THAT HE WISHES TO POSTPONE HIS TRIP TO HOLLAND FOR A YEAR. UNFORTUNATELY FOR MCWILLIAM, NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NVP-U AND FRENTE HAVE PROCEEDED TO A POINT WHERE NVP-U CANNOT BACK DOWN NOR DOES IT WISH TO DO SO. IN ADDITION TO GODETT AS MINISTER OF LABOR, THE PROBABLE NEW CABINET WILL HAVE DRs. RICHARD PIETERNELLA, PRESENTLY MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE HAGUE, AS MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN PLACE OF MINGUEL POURIER WHO HAS ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION OF RESIGNING. IT IS NOT YET CERTAIN WHETHER PIETERNELLA WILL ALSO BECOME MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OR WHETHER POURIER CAN BE CONVINCED TO KEEP THAT PORTFOLIO WHICH HE CONCURRENTLY HOLDS.

COMMENT: MCWILLIAM IS UNHAPPY OVER HIS PRESENT SITUATION AND HAS MADE NOISES ABOUT LEAVING THE NVP-U AND FORMING A NEW PARTY. IT IS UNLIKELY HE WILL GET MUCH SUPPORT FROM OTHER NVP-U MEMBERS UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS. PRIME MINISTER EVERTSZ, HOWEVER, MUST ATTEMPT TO PLACATE MCWILLIAMS IN SOME MANNER SINCE MCWILLIAMS IS ONE OF THE LARGER VOTE-GETTERS OF THE NVP-U.

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